

Update From The Editor

The theme of the our 12th Annual Cemetery Walk, held in October 2006, focused on the personalities for whom streets were named in the Corona area.

This very successful event was overseen once again by Kathleen Dever, to whom we offer kudos and great appreciation. Those who researched and authored scripts were Jean Neumann, Diane Wright and Catherine Dong. This event involved a host of history lovers whom we congratulate for a job very well done.

Costumed participants in the 2006 Cemetery Walk are seen in the photo to the right: (Standing, left to right) Lennie Keesler, Catherine Dong, Sydney Dever, Randy Montrose, Helen Yoshikawa, Kathleen Dever. (Seated, left to right), Bret Keesler, Diane Wright, Anna Dewey, Cyndi Yancu. Others who assisted in a variety of assignments that balmy afternoon, were: Mary Jo and Richard Boller, Jim Bryant, Roy Dever, Nellie & Victor Esparza, Christine Gary, Yvonne Montrose, David and Nathan Wright.



The above images are from the dedication of the Butterfield Stage historic marker at Dos Lagos in October: 1.) Costumed dedication program participants Doris Osko (Woman's Improvement Club President), Paula Rusigno (Regional Officer, WIC), Richard Winn (pinch hitting for his wife Mary, and developer Ali Sahabi (inspiration behind Dos Lagos concept), 2.) Bronze Site Marker commemorating the Overland Stage route on the natural stone monument. 3.) Richard Winn delivering the narrative history of the Temescal Valley. Seven very large posters showing vintage photographs of the area accompanied his presentation.

Mary Winn



Both Of The Corona Books Are Available



Mary Winn (seated) is anxious to sign books as members Wanda Cleveland (left), Kathleen Dever (2nd from right) and Jennie Adamo (right) look on.



On Saturday, November 25, an open house was held at the Society's office located in Suite 170 of the Historic Civic Center at 815 West Sixth Street. In conjunction with the Open House, Mary Winn was available to sign her latest pictorial book of vintage Corona postcards (it was just released on November 20), in Arcadia Publishing's Post Card History Series. Her first book *Images from the Images of America* series, was released in July 2005.

These books are available at a price of \$21.50 (tax included) from CHPS and all profits from Society sales and Mary's royalties go directly to the Corona Historic Preservation Society's coffers.

After some delays in healing from an injury, Mary is once again able to personalize these books.

As a special courtesy to CHPS members, books can be signed by Mary and delivered to your door. Call 371-5291 to make arrangements.

We Very Much Appreciate

We begin this year minus four members of our Board. Jim Bryant, our President in 2005 and 2006 resigned at the end of the year to pursue employment opportunities. Bret Keesler served as our Secretary for 2006 has now moved farther away from the Corona area. Long-term Board Member John Kane, had to leave the Board due to conflicting commitments with his employment and Trish Land regrettably left the Board due to health concerns. We will miss their input but hope they will continue to participate in our various activities.

Jim took the responsibility to move our office furniture and supplies to our new office last Spring. Setting up the gazebo and staffing our CHPS "wares" tables at various activities: Corona's Old Tyme Picnic, the Antiques and Collectables Faire and at the rededication of the Butterfield Stage Marker at Dos Lagos were Jim's specialties. We'll miss him at our meetings but feel confident that another Board member will "step up to the plate" in the near future and be willing to serve as our president.

In addition to Bret's Secretary duties of keeping excellent records Bret and his lovely wife Lennie filled in whenever needed, whether it was handling the information booth, the lemonade stand, or the Cemetery Walk (he was an actor last year and she worked with the refreshments), or refreshments for a Board meeting, they were always there. In fact, we have the Kessler's to thank for painting our office shortly after we moved to the Historic Civic Center.

NOTE: Several new Board members were elected in December at our Holiday Party. The officers or Executive Board will be determined at our January 18th CHPS Board Meeting.

A Report On Our Holiday Party By Richard Winn

On Thursday, December 8, the Society's annual Christmas Holiday party took place in the beautiful historic home of Glenn & Janet Johnson. More than 50 members and guests attended this gala occasion. Unfortunately, no photos were taken to share with newsletter readers but it was a colorful, festive event complete with a delicious buffet. We extend appreciation to all members who shared their culinary skills and contributed to the meal.

After a very fine pot-luck dinner the business meeting was convened by Vice President Mary Winn in the President's absence. Mary Winn spoke of some planned activities for the new year. On March 10th, we will host a presentation on the Mission Inn with Steve Lech and Kim Jarrell Johnson who have co-authored a book on the Mission Inn published by Arcadia Publishing. This will consist of a Power Point presentation, discussion and a book signing. It will be held in the Historic Civic Center's Community Room. Both Kim and Steve have been docents at the Mission Inn for nearly 20 years. Next year will mark CHPS's 25th Anniversary. To celebrate our anniversary of the founding, we will be having a Vintage Home Tour of several historic homes in the area. This event will be held Saturday May 12th, 2007.

Other possible events suggested were are a tour of the nearby Yorba-Slaughter Adobe, an event to be held at Lemonia Grove, tour of the 13 Historic Markers placed by CHPS.

Eagle Scout Cameron Blair recently finished his

project, which involved painting of the trim and windows of Corona's historic Santa Fe Depot. His work crew repainted the trim, cleaned up around the depot and refurbished the British telephone booth near the entry. Cameron showed pictures of his project to our group. A beautiful granite marker was available for all to see which will soon be attached to the depot.

Richard Winn, acting for the Nominations Committee, presented a slate of 5 Directors for regular two (2) year terms: Kathleen Dever, Christine Gary, Aaron Hake, Julie Stern and Mary Winn, One Director to fill an unexpired term (1 year): Richard Winn, and 3 Emeritus Directors for one (1) year terms: Marla Benson, Janette Neumann and Ted Taylor, proposed by the Nominations Committee. Nominations were opened from the floor for any other nominations. No additional nominations were received and the nominations were closed. The slate of Directors proposed by the Nominations Committee was elected by acclamation leaving one vacancy (a 1 year unexpired term) to be filled by board appointment when a candidate is identified.

Attendees were then treated to a variety of musical selections presented by the **Corona High Madrigals**. Singing from positions on the spiral stairway to the second floor, they entertained partygoers with harmonious acapella arrangements of seasonal songs, songs from other countries and a heartwarming medley of patriotic songs.

Save These Dates for Upcoming Events

Thursday, February 15th CHPS will be co-hosting the **Chamber of Commerce Megamixer** at Victor Buick, 2525 Wardlow Road, from 5 - 7 pm

Saturday, March 10 at 10 am **Pictorial Presentation on Mission Inn**
at Community Room of Historic Civic Center.

Presented by Kim Jarrell Johnson and Steve Lech Mission Inn docents as well as co-authors of *Images of America: Mission Inn* book. Purchase of books and booksigning available.

Saturday, May 12 **Vintage Home Tour** Watch newsletter for more details

1301 South Main Street *Researched by Kathleen Dever*

This large stylish Arts and Crafts Bungalow of more than 1,900 square feet and carriage house/garage is located on the southeast corner of Main Street and Olive Street. It is now surrounded by a fence made of river rock.

The home is surmised to have been built sometime in 1907 or 1908 as no building records of that time period are available to establish a more accurate determination. Daniel M. Browning owned the lot (Lot 6 of the High School Tract) at the time and may have constructed the home. Mr. Browning was a very busy man. His various occupations were listed as: rancher, Real Estate agent, School Trustee, Vice President of Corona Lumber, Notary Public and Secretary of the Corona Independent newspaper. Browning, as Clerk of the School Board, had his hand in the purchase of the 346 feet by 350 feet parcel on the west side of Main Street, diagonally across Main Street from this home, between Grand Boulevard and Olive Street that became the site of Corona's first stand-alone high school.

A brief history of early residents of the home includes the following:



The home as it appeared in a postcard sent in 1917

Dr. Alexander Brown (a local dentist) and his wife Maude resided in the home from 1908 to 1911. Local baker Frank W. McMillan and his wife Lena then purchased the home. It appears that they rented for a year to the Ross McMillan family, then resided there themselves from 1913 to 1915. The George B. MacGillvray family resided there during

1916 and 1917.

From 1918 to 1920 the MacGillvrays rented the home to local dry goods merchant, L. J. Otto. After Mr. Otto's untimely death in 1920, the house remained vacant until 1925.

Mary Ross Ott then purchased the house. After living there for only two years she sold it to prominent Corona banker, Fred Snedecor, who lived there for some 20 years, with his family. During those years he hosted many lavish parties at the home. The guest lists included almost all of Corona's influential citizens of the day.

In 1948 the house was sold to Allan and Adelaide Jameson David. Allan David was an artist of Merit and an early member of the Corona Art Association. He was also a successful citrus rancher and married into the Jameson family of Corona.

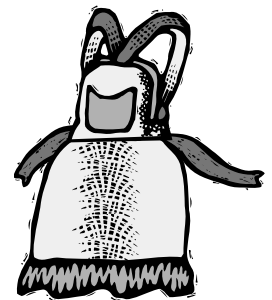
Grandma's Old Time Apron

The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that, it served as a holder for removing hot pans from the oven. It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken-coop the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids. And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms. Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove. Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls. In the fall the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the tree.



Continued on next page

I Remember When ... Pat (McNair) Scott

Pat is a real "Corona Girl." She was born in Doctor Herman's Corona Hospital (Dr. Herman was her mother's doctor) on Main Street. She attended the following Corona schools: old Lincoln (on Ninth Street, west of Victoria Avenue), Jefferson, old Washington (on West Grand Boulevard between 2nd and 3rd Streets), St. Edwards, and Corona High School when it was on Sixth Street. After going to college in San Diego she returned to teach in the Corona-Norco School District, became an administrator and after her retirement, was elected to the School Board.



Pat Scott (left) & classmate Mary Booher once attended school here at the Historic Civic Center it was a high school,

I Remember When ...

- My mother and I would walk hand-in-hand downtown to pay electric and gas bills (to avoid using stamps). We would also visit JC Penny, Juanitas dress shop, Emersons and CW Harris (a great place to shop.)
- Passenger trains came through Corona and we took the train from the Corona Depot to Union Station in Los Angeles and went to Olvera Street to eat at Felipe's.
- We had a family tradition of using my dad's home built travel trailer to go back to visit his hometown in Troyville, Iowa. Enroute, we made stops in the Grand Tetons, Yellowstone National Park, Mt. Rushmore, Carlsbad Caverns and other parks. I especially remember the parking lot in the trailer park at Carlsbad Caverns. You had to go to the bathroom before dusk because the parking lot would be covered by big huge hairy tarantulas at dusk and after dark.
- It snowed in Corona in 1949 and my brother and I collected the snow in the morning and saved it in pots in the refrigerator. Once the sun shone, the snow melted off the ground by the afternoon but we still had snow to play with at home.
- I was in junior high school we went downtown to see the filming of a movie "Storm Warning" around the first City Hall at 8th and Main. We were able to see the

movie's stars Ronald Reagan, Doris Day and Ginger Rogers.

- Before home football games there would be a huge bonfire across the street from the Gym (behind where the Post Office on Grand Boulevard is located). We would all join hands and make a human chain and then walk down to Sixth Street and then back to the high school, and the cops would stop traffic for us to cross.

- The noise in the "Red Car" trolley barn was pretty loud. I never took the P-E car to Riverside but my parents did.

- The High School's auditorium was

condemned for school use for assemblies and graduation ceremonies were held on the football field until 1960 when students moved to the 10th Street Corona High School campus.

- We used to wear "poodle skirts" in high school.
- It was "cool" to go to the Naval Hospital at the Norconian Club to visit ill or injured servicemen.
- At spring break we would go to Glen Ivy Hotsprings to swim and have lunch. Shopping for bathing suits beforehand was always fun.
- High School proms were held in the gym on Vicentia Avenue. Parachutes were brought in to lower the height of the ceiling and the gym would be decorated with artificial flowers. It was always beautiful.
- Smudge pots had to be used to keep the citrus groves from freezing and many of the boys would be called out in the early hours to set out, light, trim or otherwise tend to the pots. They would arrive at school about 11:00 am the next day covered with soot.
- The building that houses the Settlement House was used as the high school band room.
- Going to Mava Ice Cream Parlor was the best. I loved malts and shakes in the tin cups right out of the mixer.
- I lived in Home Gardens for a time and we would climb the peak and you could see all over. There was a fern grotto up there and you could see the olive trees along the canal.

Grandma's Old Time Apron *continued*

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds. When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner. It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that "old time apron" that served so many purposes.

REMEMBER THIS! "Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window to cool. Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw."

Corona's Other Crops In The Late 1950's by David Aguayo

Corona was widely known for its citrus fruit, but it had other crops . . .

1.) **Tomatoes:** As a youngster in the summers I would walk through the heavy early morning fog to an area below and to the east of Sunnyslope Cemetery. Long rows of tomato crates and space them along my row. I would grab some wooden crates and space them along my row. I would carefully pick the cherry tomatoes and place them in the crates. The sweet smell of tomatoes was pervasive. I would fill my box and then carry it to the end of the row. I earned 25 cents for each box. I worked 3-4 hours each time, before the sun warmed up.



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2.) **Walnuts:** Near the intersection of Grand Boulevard, Circle City Drive and Fullerton Avenue was a triangle of land with mature walnut trees. My dad would take me along to pick up the walnuts and place them in large burlap bags. He employed a long pole with a hook to catch the branches and knock down the walnuts. I don't know whose property it was or how extensive the orchard was. I do recall the orchard being cool and shady.



3.) **Olives:** At one time, mature olive trees lined the outlying areas of the city. Dad would drive his truck down Railroad Street, past the grand old eucalyptus trees to the south and turn north on Smith Street. He would park alongside the road and carefully hand-pick the green orbs so as not to bruise them. At home he would rinse them and place them in huge wooden casks/drums filled with a water-based solution of lye or salt. He would change the water every four hours to remove the tannic acid, even getting up at night to do so. Three or four days later, the process was complete and he would leave the olives in the casks. For our use, we would remove the olives, rinse them in clear water to remove the brine, and thus moderate them to our taste. The olives were superb. This process was a remnant of the "old California" days.

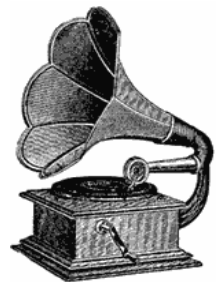


David, who grew up in Corona, is curious if others have similar memories or additional information. If so, David can be reached at 323.462.7601.

The Society's Ongoing Activities



Monthly meetings
Newsletter
Historic Marker Program
Annual Cemetery Walk at Sunnyslope Cemetery
Annual Heritage Home Awards
Oral History Program
Annual Holiday Party
Educational Seminars and Field Trips
Community Preservation Projects
Vintage Home Relocation Assistance
Historic Preservation Information and Assistance
Speakers and Slide Presentations are Available to Service Clubs and Social Organizations for Meeting Programs
Architectural Salvage Items and Materials Available to Members



Membership Information

When joining or renewing your membership, please make out your tax deductible check to CHPS.

Individual Member	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	I'd like to volunteer for:	
Family	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student	\$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Membership Activities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Business	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Relations	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patron	\$100.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Life	\$500.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____	

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Gift from _____



Membership Status: Renewal ☐ New ☐

Please complete and mail to:

CHPS

P.O. Box 2904

Corona, CA 92878



We Welcome Our New And Continuing Members

Richard & Carol Appel
 Patricia Ann Barker
 Anita Boillin
 Jim & Cathleen Bryant
 Corona Public Library, Heritage Room
 Mary Cox
 Lee Hansen
 Raymond Harris
 John & Trish Land
 Steve Lech

Kent & Ginette Lillibridge
 Janette Neumann - Patron Member
 Jerry & Jean Neumann
 Fred & Vicki Parr
 Georgia Lambert Randall
 Noemi Schulman
 Ray & Shana Shelton
 Carl & Sue Simmons
 Bobby & Karen Spiegel - Life Member

Visit The CHPS Website

You may wish to check out our CHPS website at coronahistory.org on the internet. We're still working on fine tuning the home page and it remains under construction with more items to be added. Work on the website kind of went into hibernation with Mary Winn's injury/surgery/extended recovery but we're getting started again. For a quick look at how the website will be developed take a quick look at Corona's history by clicking on the

"About Corona" tab and the "Corona History" tab will link with the Corona Public Library site and its History of Corona narrative.

The August-September 2006 CHPS Newsletter can be found under the "Education" tab. Check out other tabs to see what is planned, but most of the site remains in the "Under Construction" phase And you'll probably get an "Oops, page not found" message. Please be patient. Suggestions are welcomed.



Board of Directors

President - vacant
Vice President Mary Winn
Secretary - vacant
Treasurer Richard Winn

Directors:

Kathleen Dever
Christine Gary
Aaron Hake
Chifra Holt
John Land
Julie Stern

Directors Emeritus

Marla Benson
Janette Neumann
Ted Taylor



To contact us call
951.898.2044
And leave a message



Our Mission Statement

The Corona Historic Preservation Society (CHPS) is a nonprofit tax-exempt organization dedicated to preservation and revitalization of Corona's historic buildings, neighborhoods and sites.

Through education, legislation and organization, CHPS acts as an advocate for the preservation of Corona's historic resources.

Monthly Meetings

CHPS Board meetings are held each month to transact Society business, discuss issues affecting the Society and preservation of local historic resources.

All members are invited to attend.

The next meetings will be

Thursday, January 18, 6:30 at CHPS office

Thursday, February 8, 6:30 at CHPS office



P.O. Box 2904
Corona, California 92878-2904



**Best wishes for a prosperous & healthy New Year.
Don't forget your favorite Valentine in February!**